

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1859.

We publish in another column, under the "By Authority" head those sections of the Civil Code which refer to the new Tariff. There has been, and with good reason no doubt, considerable inquiry among the merchants and business men as to the contents of the new tariff and the time when it goes into effect. The publication of to-day will answer the first inquiry. And the Minister will reply to the second, as soon as he has obtained the opinion of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

As the Civil Code goes into effect on its promulgation in August next, and as the new Tariff is an integral part of the Code, though subject to treaty stipulations with Denmark, Hamburg, and Bremen, it is but fair to presume that this Government, if it cannot alter the tariff, will at least lose no time in giving that public notice which those treaties require, as soon as the express provision of the Civil Code itself will permit it.

When we penned our article of last week, upon the supposed French interests in this archipelago, we are free to say that we did not write for the special benefit of our contemporary who this week, it would seem, is endeavoring to make capital out of our remarks. We know the political necessity of that journal, as well as its individual penchant, too well to expect that either its own study or the arguments of others would have had any influence to divert the boundless grip with which it hangs on the flanks of the Ministry. In vain have we pointed out that most of its own objections were only the attenuated echoes, the diluted reflections of the infinitely more forcible, certainly more logical arguments of the Hawaiian plenipotentiaries during the negotiation; and had it read the protocols it could scarcely have failed to perceive, even if it had refused to acknowledge that fact. In vain do its own correspondents prove to the capacity of the smallest understanding that the treaty itself, even with all its objectionable points, is after all not such a horrible affair as a bad light, a worse position and the worst will combined have tried to make it out. In its issue of this very week a clever correspondent shows plainly that practically and really that enormous bugbear, with its pockets full of petards to blow this little kingdom into fragments, has no advantage over other treaties except in two points, one of which is said to be "an impossibility" and the other an "improbability."

THE PAST WEEK.

The Queen's Hospital.

During the past week the Trustees appointed by the subscribers have had several meetings for the purpose of drafting their charter and organizing the various details of the institution. On Saturday and Tuesday the project of the Charter was read, discussed and amended. The following sub-committees of the Trustees were appointed, viz: to draft by-laws, Messrs. Castle, Gregg and Green; to select a site for the Hospital, His Majesty the King, Messrs. Bishop, Snow, Webster, and Damon, and also a committee to report a place for a temporary dispensary.

On Thursday forenoon a general meeting of all the subscribers was called to the Court House to hear the reading of the Charter prepared by the Trustees, and vote upon its adoption. His Majesty presiding. The Charter was read and, with a slight amendment, adopted by the meeting. It will now be forwarded to the Interior Department to be issued under the seal of the Minister, and to judge from the present spirit and energy not a week will elapse before the Queen's Hospital will be a legally incorporated institution, sped on its errand of love by every means that philanthropy can devise, money procure and zeal apply.

We notice with unfeigned pleasure the unabated interest which the public continues to entertain in the advancement of the hospital. And we feel a moral assurance that this time the words "fail" or "delay" find neither utterance nor home among this community in connection with this subject. The extremely handsome manner in which all, who were honored by His Majesty's visits, responded to his appeal, shows this plainly. The full attendance on the concert is further proof; and the persevering activity of the Trustees, presided over by His Majesty in person, warrant us in looking upon the "Queen's Hospital" as a foregone conclusion, and not as one of those paper-institutions which are sometimes got up expressly for foreign admiration, without regard to their adaptation to the home-market.

To our youthful, home born and beloved Queen is due the parent-thought which set the present enterprise a-going. It was a queenly thought and a mother's feeling.

We understand that Her Majesty the Queen intends to associate the ladies of Honolulu with herself, in this cherished undertaking, through a Fancy Fair and Charity Bazaar, to come off sometime between the 1st and 16th December next. We are fain to think, and proud to say it, that not a lady in Honolulu would fail to respond in a suitable manner to such a call, from such a source, for such an object.

Chamber of Commerce.

A meeting of the above institution was held on Saturday afternoon last, W. L. Green in the Chair. The President announced the object to be, to inquire when the New Tariff would go into operation, and what portion of it; and invited the Minister of Finance, Mr. Gregg, to inform the Chamber what action the Government intended to take on this question.

Mr. Gregg replied, that the question involved differences of opinion which he would not attempt to solve upon his own responsibility, but that as soon as the Judges of the Supreme Court returned to Honolulu, he would formally take their opinion; and by so doing he hoped to prevent future litigation and appeals. There were several questions to consider which were properly judicial and not executive questions—such as, when does the tariff go into effect?—when is notice thereof to be promulgated?—and, what constitutes such notice? He promised that as soon as he had consulted the Judges, he would hasten to inform the Chamber previous to the public or official proclamation, that the merchants may have all the time possible to accommodate their business to the altered circumstances of the tariff.

Several gentlemen spoke—some to the point, and some at random, and several of the members were losing themselves in the mysteries of the French treaty, when they were recalled by Mr. Cartwright, who reminded them that the object of the meeting was to inquire of the Government when the New Tariff would go into effect, and not to discuss that point ourselves.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to Mr. Gregg for his promised efforts in behalf of the merchants, and a motion to appoint a Committee to address a letter to the Minister of the Interior asking for information on the question which had brought this meeting together. The motion was carried, and Messrs. Green, Spalding and J. C. Flueger were appointed such Committee.

R. H. Agricultural Society (Native).

There was a meeting of the Royal Native Hawaiian Agricultural Society on Monday last, on which occasion Mr. Hopkins read a paper intended to carry out the ideas to which His Majesty gave expression the last time the members came together. It went to show the loss of time and the want of the necessities of life, to say nothing of the comforts and luxuries, which may be referred to horse-riding and horse-keeping on one hand and to attending native hulas on the other. It is well known that under the active superintendence of Mr. Moffit horses and hulas have been systematically kept under for some years past on Mr. Hopkins' property and on that of the gentleman just mentioned, and it is not unfair to assert that to that policy may be largely ascribed the fact that, in the part of the country alluded to, neat wooden tenements inclosed by substantial stone walls are taking the place of reeking grass huts half eaten down by the half-starved darlings that the people almost everywhere tether about their premises. A copy of the remarks in question was requested for publication in the *Hae Hawaii*, native newspaper. Some remarks were subsequently made on the subject of growing cotton, a branch of industry for which many parts of the islands are well adapted. It appears that there are persons who have already made a commencement in this line, and that samples sent to Boston have been reported on in a manner to give great encouragement. Several years ago there were a good many cotton fields of various sizes to be seen about the islands, some growing in places that were hardly available for anything else. Governor Kuakini indeed went so far as to manufacture a very stout kind of cloth in Kailua, Hawaii. It was proposed by the Rev. Mr. Armstrong that prizes in money and of sums which would make them worth contending for should be offered on a graduated scale, say, the three best specimens that may be exposed at the exhibition of this year. It was asserted that this cotton raising is a business which will fall in with the habits of the people, and for which they have always evinced an inclination.

Nuuanu Valley Cemetery Association.

At a meeting of the above Association, at the store of Mr. B. F. Snow, yesterday, 11 o'clock A. M., it was resolved to apply to the Government for a charter of incorporation, and to meet again on Tuesday next to hear and vote upon such charter. No intelligent man, for six months a resident in this country, needs to be told that this subject of providing a cemetery for the foreign population of Honolulu, whether permanent or transient—and the transient even before the permanent—is one of the highest importance. And as no proper, recognized action of the Association for the sake of bettering its condition, enlarging its boundaries or even changing its place, can be had until they have been legally incorporated, the above resolution is the preliminary step for accomplishing the needed reforms in the necropolis affairs of this city.

It is surely high time that the gratuitous kindness of the Rev. Mr. Damon should not be taxed any further. The citizens owe it to themselves, as Christian men in a civilized land, that they should bear the expense, the care and management of providing a last resting-place and the manner of getting there, not only for themselves, but also for the increasing number of death-stricken strangers, whose only call upon our hospitality is a modest request for six feet of earth.

We shall expect a better attendance on Tuesday next than was that on Friday. If there is not, we shall feel obliged to speak more plainly.

Gas Works.

Among the passengers by the *Frances Palmer* we notice Mr. Tiffany, who visited us a couple of months ago and made preparatory arrangements for erecting that modern adjunct of civilization, yclept gas-works, in our city. Mr. Tiffany, having obtained a charter from the government on his last sojourn here, now returns with all the materials, fixings, pipes &c., even to chandeliers, for starting the enterprise into operation. As soon as the location has been selected, the erection of the new works will be commenced, which will enable them to be thoroughly finished and ready to shed their light through private stores and public places by the commencement of the Fall-season.

It is plain to be seen by the thrift and foresight that pervades every phase of social life, that Honolulu has turned over a new leaf and is awakening, though with many a yawn and scratch of the head, to a full sense of the reality of her position.

Motel.

Our neighbor has been mystified lately by a loaf of brown bread, which somebody sent him. It takes but little to upset some people's equilibrium! We remember the vow which Neptune compelled us to take when first we crossed the Line, viz: "never to eat brown bread when we could get white; never to—" never mind what; we are growing old and have renounced the jurisdiction of Neptune. But to return. Had our friend inquired, he would have been told at every corner that that precious loaf was, and many more like it are daily, baked by Mr. Mann, baker, in King Street, opposite the coopers of Lewis & Norton, and that the price is twenty-five cents a loaf—though that may dispel the illusion of "old Sandy Hook."

The *Advertiser* says that the "U. S. Assay coins are included in the debased gold coins. They consist only of five and ten dollar pieces, with a bar across the back and are reduced to \$4.75 and \$9.50."

We admire the accuracy of this discoverer of notes in other people's eyes. His statement is perfectly correct with three exceptions. 1. There are no five dollar pieces of the U. S. Assay coin. 2. The ten dollar pieces are reduced to \$9.75, not \$9.50. 3. The twenty dollar pieces (of which the *Advertiser* takes no notice) are reduced to \$19.75.

Our neighbor suggests that the merchants and traders should endeavor to bring the dimes "into currency again with the natives." Has it forgotten that the Chamber of Commerce pledged itself to bring the dimes into circulation? Or does it merely speak now as to claim the paternity of the idea at some future period? Most likely.

The *Advertiser* goes into ecstasies on a "mammoth tomato" from Punahou. We have known private gentlemen raise the same kind of tomato in Honolulu and look upon it as of common occurrence.

Royal School Examination.

Yesterday the annual examination, preceding the vacation of the Royal School, took place on the premises. And on Tuesday next, at 7 P. M., the Rhetorical exhibition of the scholars comes off. We shall then notice it further.

The alarm of fire yesterday morning was caused by a chinaman's mosquito netting catching fire in a native dwelling in the yard adjoining the Station House, and also by a native causing too much smoke while cooking taro near the lumber yard of Mr. Lewers in Fort Street.

Fire Department—The Election.

On Monday last the Fire Department of Honolulu held its annual election for Chief Engineer and first and second Assistant Engineers. The late officers of this department having retired, the competition was entirely between new men and consequently warm. The Department, including the two Engines and the Hook and Ladder Companies, numbers 115 active members, of which 84 were present voting. The elected candidates were:

Chief Engineer, R. Gilliland, 43.
1st Asst. of G. Clark, 44.
2d do R. B. Neville, 44.

To the retiring officers, and the late Chief Engineer particularly, A. J. Cartwright, Esq., Honolulu is much indebted for the present effective and creditable condition of its Fire Department.

At a Stand-still.

The stone building now in course of erection on the Market Wharf, by C. L. Richards, has suddenly ceased to re-echo the sound of the hammer or the slap of the trowel. Reason, why? Because the lumber trade of this country is in a fluctuating condition—to-day a feast, to-morrow a famine. There is no lumber fit to make tie-beams for the new building, and the *Jenny Ford* is only to arrive "in all this month."

The assembly ball at the Bungalow, on Wednesday last, was not so well attended as the previous one, owing to the absence of many ladies from town. Still it was a lively and entertaining affair. We believe that one more ball closes this series of the subscription.

Throughout this week the usual weather attendant upon the regular course of the trade winds, has been in a remarkable degree affected by some meteorological causes, supposed to bear some relation to the volcanic actions of Mauna Loa, Hawaii. The heavy, hazy atmosphere, the interruption of the trade winds, the sultriness and inclination to rain, are contrary to the course of nature in the month of June on the Hawaiian Islands.

"DRINKING.—The first draught serveth for health, the second for pleasure, the third for shame, and the fourth for madness." We find the above in the *Advertiser*, and we congratulate it upon the truth discovered therein. Health and Pleasure are the fruits of temperance. Shame and Madness are the portion of intemperance.

In consequence of the supply of ice in Honolulu not going to last more than a week or ten days longer, we are requested to say that the last of the subscription balls at the Bungalow will be given on Wednesday next, June 15, instead of June 22 as originally intended. Ladies and gentlemen will please take notice.

Dr. D. Fick, for many years a resident in this country, and now living in San Francisco, intends to edit a newspaper in the French language, to be called *Le Mineur*.

Our acknowledgments are due to C. W. Brooks, McRuer & Merrill, and J. W. Sullivan, all of San Francisco, for late files of papers from all parts of the world. Also to Capt. J. P. Pary of the *Frances Palmer*, and to Mr. Tiffany, for late intelligence.

We notice by an advertisement in another column, that on Tuesday next Mr. Everett will sell, at his sales' room, a large assortment of merchandise ex "Pizarro" and other arrivals to close consignments. The goods landed per the *Pizarro* are well known to be of superior quality and no doubt on the above occasion there will be a large attendance and some spirited bidding.

By advertisement in another column, it will be seen that Messrs. Harvey & McClymont have purchased the interest of Mr. Gilliland, who has for a number of years, with credit to himself, conducted the business of painter and glazier in this city. The new firm will be carried on in the name of Harvey & McClymont. Mr. Gilliland is well known as a faithful workman and prompt in all his undertakings. As Mr. Harvey is well known as a painter and glazier, we doubt not the new firm will receive that patronage which has been so long and deservedly bestowed upon their predecessor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE POLYNESIAN.

SIR:—Can you not write a few paragraphs which will arouse the community to the importance of making suitable provision for the dead? More than two-thirds of the foreigners residing in Honolulu are unprovided for, were any of their families, their friends, or themselves to die to-day. For years it has been literally true that when persons have died, their remains have been deposited in a lot belonging to a neighbor. It has been proposed that the proprietors of the Nuuanu Cemetery lock up the gate and tabu the enclosure to all non-proprietors. Permanent residents in Honolulu ought to be ashamed, unless they are willing to come forward and provide additional ground. It is rumored that an incorporated association is to be organized. If that is true, let a stirring appeal be made to the community. It seems to be an easy matter to raise money for a Hospital, Odd-Fellowship, Sailor's Home, Missions, and many other enterprises, and why not something be done to make suitable provision for the proper and becoming burial of the dead? I am proprietor of a lot in the old cemetery, but I am still ready to help forward a new enterprise, provided the community is willing to come forward, otherwise I will vote to lock the gate and put a tabu upon the enclosure so far as all non proprietors are concerned.

AN OLD RESIDENT.

[We have alluded to the same subject in another place, but would again call attention to the meeting on Tuesday next.—Ed.]

By Authority.

[Extract from the Civil Code.]

ARTICLE XV.

SECTION 516. There shall be levied, collected and paid upon all goods, wares, merchandise and produce, imported into this kingdom, a duty of five per cent. *ad valorem*, excepting wines and spirituous liquors, and excepting sugars, molasses and syrups of sugar, and coffee, the produce of any country, with which this government has no existing treaty, which shall be subject to the following rates of duty, viz:

Distilled spirits, wines of all descriptions, ale, porter, beer, cider, and all other fermented liquors, cordials, and liqueurs, exceeding fifty-five per cent. of alcohol, ten dollars per gallon.

Brandy, rum, gin, whisky, arrack, and all other distilled spirits, not exceeding fifty-five per cent. of alcohol, five dollars per gallon.

Wines, cordials, and liqueurs of all descriptions other than claret, containing more than eighteen and not more than twenty-seven per cent. of alcohol, one dollar per gallon.

Claret wines, ale, porter, beer, cider, and all other fermented liquors, cordials and liqueurs, not exceeding eighteen per cent. of alcohol, five per cent. *ad valorem*.

All sugars, the produce of any foreign country with which this government has no existing treaty, two cents per pound.

Molasses and syrups of sugar, the produce of any country with which this government has no existing treaty, ten cents per gallon.

Coffee, the produce of any country with which this government has no existing treaty, three cents per pound.

Provided, however, that no import duty whatever, shall be levied upon any naval stores or supplies belonging to any foreign Government, when imported

longing to any foreign Government, when imported and used as such: nor upon such stores and supplies as may be imported by the diplomatic representative of any foreign Government, for his own private use and consumption, in accordance with the provisions of section 467; nor upon goods allowed to be imported by whale ships, in accordance with the provisions of section 509; nor upon any live or dead products of the sea, being the catch of a duly registered Hawaiian vessel.

And provided also, that the Minister of Finance may, upon special application, allow any of the following articles to be imported free of duty, viz: Seeds, roots, and plants intended to be sown or planted in this kingdom; plows and hoes, and other implements of husbandry imported by any agriculturist, or body of agriculturists for their own use; steam engines, sugar mills, coffee mills, and other machinery for the promotion and facilitating of agriculture, imported by any agriculturist or body of agriculturists for their own use; horses, mules, bullocks, sheep, swine and other domestic animals, birds and bees imported for the purpose of improving or extending the breeds of these animals within this kingdom.

SECTION 517. Whenever the duties specified in this section can be substituted for those provided for in the last preceding section, a view of the existing treaty between this Government and any foreign Government, then in lieu of such duties, there shall be levied, collected and paid on goods, wares and merchandise imported from foreign countries the following rates of duty:

1. On alcohol and other spirits of the strength of alcohol, ten dollars per gallon; on brandy, gin, rum, whisky, and all other spirits or strong waters, of whatever name or description, below the strength of alcohol, three dollars per gallon; also on all liquors, cordials, bitters, brandied fruits, perfumery, and other articles of merchandise sweetened or mixed, containing alcohol, or spirits, of the strength of thirty per cent., or upwards, three dollars per gallon.

2. A duty of one dollar and fifty cents per gallon on port, sherry, Madeira and other wines of whatever name or description, above eighteen per cent. of alcoholic strength; also on all cordials, bitters and other articles of merchandise, of whatever name or description, containing, or preserved in alcohol, or spirits above that rate of strength and below thirty per cent.

3. A duty of five per cent. *ad valorem*, on all wines in casks and cases, known in commerce as wines "de cassis."

4. A duty of ten per cent. *ad valorem*, on cider, beer, ale, porter, and other fermented beverages below eighteen per cent. of alcoholic strength.

5. A duty of fifteen per cent. *ad valorem*, on all wines of a higher quality than wines of "cassis" strength; also on tobacco, opium, and the manufactures thereof.

6. Upon all other goods, wares and merchandise imported into the Hawaiian Islands, a duty of ten per cent. *ad valorem*; provided, however, that no import duty shall be levied on goods or other articles imported for the use of the Government, or of the King and Queen, or for the use of the public, or for the use of the Government, when imported and used as such; goods imported for the private use and consumption of foreign diplomatic representatives; goods allowed by foreign treaties to be introduced free by whale ships; professional books, implements and tools of trade in actual use of persons from abroad, and not intended for sale; old household effects in use abroad by those bringing them, and not for sale; wearing apparel, not merchandise, in use of persons arriving at Hawaiian ports; personal household effects, not merchandise, of subjects of the Hawaiian Kingdom abroad; oil, bone, fish or other products of the sea, being the catch of duly registered Hawaiian vessels, and goods, wares and merchandise exported to a foreign country, and brought back in the same condition as when exported, upon which no drawback has been allowed; provided, also, that the Minister of Finance may allow the following articles to be imported free of duty on application for that purpose: Tools, shovels, plants and seeds when not intended for sale as merchandise; gold and silver coins; philosophical, chemical, and other apparatus for the use of schools and colleges; curiosities, paintings and statuary not for sale; specimens of botany, mineralogy, geology and other natural sciences, for the use of schools and colleges; all books, maps and charts, when not intended for sale as merchandise; and models of inventions, if not fitted for use; machinery of all kinds, if intended for specific use; steam engines, sugar, coffee and rice mills, plows, hoes and other implements of husbandry, imported by, or for any agriculturist, or body of agriculturists, for his or their special use; bees, birds and fowls, horses, mares, asses, bullocks, cows, calves, sheep, swine, and other animals intended for improving the breeds of such animals; and provided, further, that the Minister of Finance may, in his discretion, allow alcohol to be withdrawn from the Custom House, for medicinal, mechanical or scientific purposes, on the payment of a duty of fifty per cent. *ad valorem*—the party or parties applying for and withdrawing the same, giving satisfactory security that it shall be used only for such purposes.

That this matter may be correctly understood, it is necessary to observe, that the Hawaiian Legislature has made the silver dollar of the United States, consisting of one hundred cents, the unit of money, and standard of measure of value, in these islands. (See Laws 1846, Vol. 1, p. 185.) and the coins of all other countries, American gold included, are to be taken by the Government of this country, and between private individuals, at their current rate in Honolulu, for the time being. The Congress of the United States, soon after the organization of that Government, fixed upon the silver dollar as the unit of money, and declared that 371 1/4 grains of pure silver should make the standard dollar, and it has consequently become the perpetual standard of value in that country. The gold dollar may be, as all other coins have been, from time to time altered, by adding more, or taking from them, to assimilate them in value to the silver dollar, but the exact quantity of pure silver in the silver dollar has never been changed; nor, indeed, can it be, without violating that clause of their Constitution, which declares that no law shall ever be passed which impairs the obligation of a contract.

It is said by some here, that a 5-franc piece is taken at the United States Mint at 95¢, and hence is worth that amount at home. We deny that a 5-franc piece is worth 95¢. One reason why it will bring more than its real value at the Mint, is that French silver is worth for minting from 12 to 2 per cent. more than the silver of any other country, not because that it is more pure, but for the reason that the alloy in it is precisely the same as in the American silver dollar, and thus saves the Mint the trouble of assaying and reuniting. Again, the Mint will take four 5-franc pieces at 95¢ and repay you in American gold at the expiration of 60 days, and, as noted in ours of last week, this, at 2 per cent. per month of interest, is equivalent to 4 per cent. loss. The gold dollar is not worth the silver dollar, by various estimations, from 3 to 5 per cent. Now the actual worth of the 5 franc piece as ascertained by actual assay at the Mint, is a fraction over 95¢ (not 95¢), and of the sovereign \$4.60. Five 5-franc pieces are actually worth a shilling less than \$4.65, and a sovereign is worth \$4.65, and yet the Chamber of Commerce decrees that that which is really worth a minimum of more than 10¢ should be taken at an advance of 50¢; and unless something is done to prevent it, we shall be overrun with this depreciated coin. The bankers in San Francisco are taking the 5-franc piece at 90¢, payable in American gold or halves. Then, if the American silver dollar rules at 7 per cent. premium in that market, it makes a difference between the standard of Hawaiian currency and the 5-franc piece of 17 per cent.

As the whaling season approaches, our business men will order their silver change to be sent over for the full business, and the Chamber of Commerce should meet and put the 5 francs at their real value, instead of being brought here to pass for a dollar in the purchase of provisions at \$4.50, they would pass out of circulation, and American dollars, halves and quarters would take their place. We notice that in San Francisco no quarters but the United States and Mexican are taken by the Bankers at over 15¢ and this leads us to the subject of a "decimal currency."

Had the Chamber of Commerce at their last meeting, voted that the real should pass only for 10 cents, the American dime, which are to be had in any quantity at the Mint in San Francisco, would be brought here by our merchants for their small change, and the Royal circulation here, not one in ten of which has as much pure silver in it as a ten cent piece, would disappear all together, and we should have a complete decimal currency. This currency is easily understood by the natives; and we should have the satisfaction of knowing that our currency would be established on a basis which would never subject the people of this kingdom to the loss of a second, or another annoyance.

The *Daily News* correspondent says that Lord Cowley and Count Walewski, after a long discussion, had separated, with the conviction that very serious differences of opinion exist between France and England.

Nine gunboats for the Adriatic are ordered to be made ready at Cherbourg without delay.

The Archduke Albrecht has gone on a special mission to Berlin. Austria is willing to make important concessions to France, on the point of the Italian question, and a perfect understanding between the two governments is considered highly probable.

Warlike preparations are continued in some of the smaller German States. The Bavarian army has been placed on a war footing.

The *London Times* Vienna correspondent says that several of the leading papers have openly declared that the Germans will not shed one drop of blood, either for the maintenance of the special treaties or the Austrian cordon.

Lord Derby announced in the House of Lords that the Cabinet would dissolve Parliament and appeal to the country. He severely commented on Lord Russell's course, and likewise characterized Palmerston's recommendation that Ministers should accept Russell's amendment as a direct insult. He rejoined at the general support the Government had received, and expressed his conviction that for want of cohesion, the Opposition would be speedily dissolved. The Cabinet had decided to dissolve Parliament as soon as public business permitted, because they thought the country ought to be consulted on the present point, because the interests of peace would suffer from a change in the Administration. Mr. Disraeli made a corresponding announcement in the Commons.

The Atlantic cable company have decided to expend a sum not exceeding a hundred thousand dollars to re-suscitate the cable; and active operations to this end will be commenced as soon as the weather will permit. The Atlantic Company will not attempt to lay the new cable until July of next year, 1860.

Utah and the Cabinet. The official despatches from, showing as they do great disagreement between Gov. Comming and Gen. Johnston have been the subject of a Cabinet discussion at Washington. It is stated that the instructions given respectively to both these functionaries are a warrant for the ground each has taken. How the matter will be settled, if yet determined, is not publicly known.

Senator M., the Minister of the Interior, Government, has been formally received by the President. This was done after it was known, by telegraphic despatches, that the news from Mexico was less encouraging to the hopes of the Liberal party. Senator M. is empowered to grant our Government all that Comstock had

agreed to in his treaties with Forsyth. But he has no power to negotiate, nor will any be made the subject of negotiation.

The north-western boundary question is beginning to excite some attention. The general belief, so far as it has been examined, is that the United States is fairly entitled to have the line run by such a channel as will secure the islands of Vancouver's Sound, which are in dispute.

Chile.

Political affairs in Chile are in about the same state as when the last steamer left. All the South is in the hands of the Government, and the North held by the revolutionists.

General Vidaurri, with three thousand five hundred men, has been sent to take the command in the North.

COMMERCIAL.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1859.

The arrival of the *Frances Palmer*, of the regular line of packets, on the 9th, brought us San Francisco dates to the 25th ult. The market remained unchanged except in coffee, which received a "knock in the eye" from the ill effects of which it fell in 24 hours from 19c to 18c, the "gentle hit" being a cargo of Rio, sold at auction on the 9th at 12.50¢ @ 13.15¢. It showed no immediate prospect of rising. Sugars were dull at 9.50¢, best grades selling at the latter figure. Dark grades were very unsaleable. Molasses in fair demand, 300 packages S. I., part ready to arrive, selling at 85¢. Pula in good demand at 14c. Fungus at 14c. In oils, whale and sperm, there was scarcely any demand outside of the dealers, who were supplying their customers from stocks already in hand, leaving the market without a transaction during the fortnight. 50,000 gallons of the catch of the *Ocean Bird* had been shipped to New York per *Andrew Jackson*. The quotation of oil sold in Bremen, ex *Oceanos*, as given in our last was incorrect, owing to the depreciation in Rio, which has taken place lately in our market. It should have been reported at 9.50¢ for oil, and 10.00¢ for Pula. For Pula and 9.50¢ for N. W. bone, less expenses incurred for re-shipment. We shall always be happy to correct any error of quotations made by us, more especially when brought to our notice in such a business-like manner, as was this. In treasure the *Frances Palmer* brought here manifested \$21,000. The sale of the *Metropole* is given to us at \$6,000.

By the *Frances Palmer* we received some of the recently coined American dollars, and it certainly did one's eyes good to look at them. As far as our "able pen" can do it, let it discuss with others whether the 5-franc piece is worth the dollar, and if not, what it really is worth; for if we have 500,000 of them here, the quicker we make a first lot the better. The Chamber of Commerce adjourned, as noted in our last, leaving them, for the present, at the nominal price of a dollar, and it becomes necessary for our business men to give their attention to this, that they may know what they are about, when the question comes up again, as it must, before that tribunal for final decision. Our business relations with San Francisco are so close that it seems to require no argument to prove that no piece of money can permanently be kept up here, above the value it bears there, without a loss to our people, equal to the difference in the currency so overrated.

That this matter may be correctly understood, it is necessary to observe, that the Hawaiian Legislature has made the silver dollar of the United States, consisting of one hundred cents, the unit of money, and standard of measure of value, in these islands. (See Laws 1846, Vol. 1, p. 185.) and the coins of all other countries, American gold included, are to be taken by the Government of this country, and between private individuals, at their current rate in Honolulu, for the time being. The Congress of the United States, soon after the organization of that Government, fixed upon the silver dollar as the unit of money, and declared that 371 1/4 grains of pure silver should make the standard dollar, and it has consequently become the perpetual standard of value in that country. The gold dollar may be, as all other coins have been, from time to time altered, by adding more, or taking from them, to assimilate them in value to the silver dollar, but the exact quantity of pure silver in the silver dollar has never been changed; nor, indeed, can it be, without violating that clause of their Constitution, which declares that no law shall ever be passed which impairs the obligation of a contract.

It is said by some here, that a 5-franc piece is taken at the United States Mint at 95¢, and hence is worth that amount at home. We deny that a 5-franc piece is worth 95¢. One reason why it will bring more than its real value at the Mint, is that French silver is worth for minting from 12 to 2 per cent. more than the silver of any other country, not because that it is more pure, but for the reason that the alloy in it is precisely the same as in the American silver dollar, and thus saves the Mint the trouble of assaying and reuniting. Again, the Mint will take four 5-franc pieces at 95¢ and repay you in American gold at the expiration of 60 days, and, as noted in ours of last week, this, at 2 per cent. per month of interest, is equivalent to 4 per cent. loss. The gold dollar is not worth the silver dollar, by various estimations, from 3 to 5 per cent. Now the actual worth of the 5 franc piece as ascertained by actual assay at the Mint, is a fraction over 95¢ (not 95¢), and of the sovereign \$4.60. Five 5-franc pieces are actually worth a shilling less than \$4.65, and a sovereign is worth \$4.65, and yet the Chamber of Commerce decrees that that which is really worth a minimum of more than 10¢ should be taken at an advance of 50¢; and unless something is done to prevent it, we shall be overrun with this depreciated coin. The bankers in San Francisco are taking the 5-franc piece at 90¢, payable in American gold or halves. Then, if the American silver dollar rules at 7 per cent. premium in that market, it makes a difference between the standard of Hawaiian currency and the 5-franc piece of 17 per cent.

As the whaling season approaches, our business men will order their silver change to be sent over for the full business, and the Chamber of Commerce should meet and put the 5 francs at their real value, instead of being brought here to pass for a dollar in the purchase of provisions at \$4.50, they would pass out of circulation, and American dollars, halves and quarters would take their place. We notice that in San Francisco no quarters but the United States and Mexican are taken by the Bankers at over 15¢ and this leads us to the subject of a "decimal currency."

Had the Chamber of Commerce at their last meeting, voted that the real should pass only for 10 cents, the American dime, which are to be had in any quantity at the Mint in San Francisco, would be brought here by our merchants for their small change, and the Royal circulation here, not one in ten of which has as much pure silver in it as a ten cent piece, would disappear all together, and we should have a complete decimal currency. This currency is easily understood by the natives; and we should have the satisfaction of knowing that our currency would be established on a basis which would never subject the people of this kingdom to the loss of a second, or another annoyance.

The *Daily News* correspondent says that Lord Cowley and Count Walewski, after a long discussion, had separated, with the conviction that very serious differences of opinion exist between France and England.

Nine gunboats for the Adriatic are ordered to be made ready at Cherbourg without delay.

The Archduke Albrecht has gone on a special mission to Berlin. Austria is willing to make important concessions to France, on the point of the Italian question, and a perfect understanding between the two governments is considered highly probable.